G. R. S. IX-5]

Previous references.

File No. 97-1

1918

(Mar)

Serial Nos.

1 - 3

Later references.

P 497-18(1-7)

Proj 242-28-1-8.

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

Serial Nos.

Part B for Nov 18

SUBJECT.

His Highness the Maharaja's Chattram at Benares

Messrs. B Narasinga Rao & Veene Rangasami Iyengar of S. Palaiyam No 1396 dt 28.11.1

Informs them that the location of _____ is engaging the a of Govt

W D 88—GPB—50,000—21-7-16

G. R. S. III—1] 1918.

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

(Mudras)

NOTES.

File No. 99-18

FILE HEADING.

His Highness The Maharaja's chattram in Benares.
Subject no. 109 proposed for discussion at the Second Session in April 1918).

From

Messrs. B. Narasinga Rao and Venu Ranga Swamiengar.

No.	Dated	Received
Diary No. 207	Enclos. – Spare Copies. –	Serial No. 1

BRIEF ABSTRACT OF LETTER.

Pray that the chattram repd. to may be located in a prominent place, and arrangements made for the efficient management thereof.

NOTES AND ORDERS.

~~For~~ The joint Secretary's remarks, the 1st member's views and the Summary of discussion during the Budget Discussion in April 1918, are noted in page 163 of The Bound Book of Dasara Subjects. The matter is engaging the

If not put

NOTES—Last Sheet

WD 1232—GPB—20,000—18-11-16

I. R. S. III-21

General and Revenue Secretariat.

Murree File No. 99 of 1918.

Serial No

attention of the Murree Supdt in response
Subsidy
13.8.18 Yr. Secy's remarks -
"The subject is engaging attention & information has been called for from the local agent about any available building with advantage of Situation both for a satisfactory solution, the deputation of a responsible Officer to Baramula with time to investigate & power to negotiate for the purchase of a suitable building appears to be necessary. The future management & the system of feeding a fixed no of Brahmins daily whether travellers or local residents will have to be changed"
First Members orders
Yes.
The ~~Secretary~~ Members concerned may be informed that the matter is engaging attention & ~~final~~ satisfactory arrangts are expected to be made in due course.
RA
14/8/18
The Murree Supt may inspect the insts and determine what could be done to ameliorate conditions. -
Secy

NOTE—Contn sheet

WD A 1789—C PB—60 000—20 3 19—S

G. R. S. III-2]

General and Revenue Secretariat.

Muz File No. 99 of 191 8

Serial No.	
	Complainant. I submit for favour of perusal a note prepared by me some time ago on the affairs of the Mt. [illegible]
	(Sd) illegible 20.8.18
313-163 / 27.8.18	
1)	I have gone thro the papers & the refers put up & seems to me that it is advisable to sanction the estimate for Rs 730/- for urgent repairs to the Chattrim submitted by the urgent — Govinda Shashiy. As regards the scale of feeding charges, establishment etc it does not appear to me that any modification is at present indicated or desirable.* Govinda Shashiy should be made aware of the complaints received from time to time and to ascertain the cause and circumstances & to see that occasions for complaints are avoided in future. I do not think more can be done as matters stand.
2)	
3)	Burning ghee bisli to Burmese — Note in the Personal Staff of His Highness the Viceroy's representations have made & what is unsatisfactory in any manner in this matter & the circumstances did not. Pass story to Secy. for record & regn

*The system of feeding local people should, I think, be put a stop to all the same.

NOTE—Contn sheet

General and Revenue Secretariat. | Muz. File No. 99 of 1918.

Serial No.

the matter thoroughly reported. But the local enquiries which I made at the time went to show that the agent was not altogether responsible for the complaints received from time to time & that the pilgrims who resorted to it has also contributed towards the situation!

The arrangements about the Negroe Memorial at Kalighat, Calcutta, were made by me during 1907 and the success of its working is largely due to the personal interest taken in it, and the most satisfactory local agent selected for its charge, by Mr. T. Jafarmon. of Burnhill Street Calcutta. I fear it may not be possible to make equally satisfactory arrangements for the Chatrasim at Puri

Put
30. 8. 18.

The R.A member who resides in Burma may here be informed as proposed, in the usual manner

Put
31. 8. 18.

A Copy of the Mussoorie papers under reference to the Palace Controller Negroe, and that officer requested for remarks as to further action if any

Put.
31 8 18

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

WD—A 1789—GPB—60,000—20 3 18—S

G. R. S. III-2]

General and Revenue Secretariat.

Mwz. File No. 99 of 1918.

Serial No.	
	No action is required under items 1, 2 & 3 as these are matters touched upon in the D.O. note which was prepared for the very purpose of sanctioning the repairs. Sanction has already been conveyed after large volume of Correspondence.
	As regards 4. Put up a suitable draft. and as C.S. send D.O. to Comptroller Note marked B which gives all the information about Chattram and which is the question of repairs.
	3-9-18 4/9/18.
	Issued with 2 drafts (1) to the D.R.A. concerned (2) to the Palace Controller, Mysore, as directed above. (Mwz file 49-14 re Repairs to Chattram is also pending for reply). 30.9.18 16/18
2	No 1395 Dy 28.11.18. To Palace Controller for the letter for the D.O.
3	No 1396 Dy 2.12.18

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

WD A 1783—GPB—60,000—20-3 18—S.

SUBJECT No. 109.

His Highness the Maharaja's Chattram in Benares.

Messrs. B. Narasinga Rao and Veené Rangasawmi Iyengar, Seringapatam taluk.

Summary of representation.—His Highness the Maharaja's Chattram in Benares is located in an obscure lane and pilgrims cannot trace it easily. It may be located in a prominent place and arrangements made for the efficient management thereof.

Note.—Withdrawn.

207
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99-18
1.

9

temples at the place and for payment of Lakshine to the Brahmans fed at the Chattram.

3. This total Tasdik of 1040 pagodas which in the current coin amounts to Rs.2,883-3-3 continues to be the Tasdik of the Chattram up to date. The Nirup gives the details of the expenditure to be incurred and this scale practically continues unaltered as will be seen from the appended statement.

4. From the terms of the Nirup it seems to be inferable that the Chattram in question was established on lines somewhat different from those of the Anna Chattrams maintained for the benefit of the travelling public. The numbers of persons to be fed daily is not only fixed but also cash presents (Dakshine) are to be paid to the Brahmans fed. The occasion in connection with which the Chattram appears to have been established is also significant. In the same diary entries, another entry is found dated the day previous to the above-mentioned Nirups, issuing an order to the Fouzdar to pay certain moneys to Desha Pastry who was to accompany to Benares the Asti (incinerated bones) of Mahamthoari Cheluvajammani and to perform certain ceremonies at Gaya. The Kaifiat establishing the Chattram if available may be found to explain the object with which [illegible] but it is not unlikely that it was intended for the spiritual benefit of the deported probably the step-mother of His Highness. Feeding a specified number of Brahmans with Dakshine at a holy place is a well recognized form of spiritual service to the deported and this form of charity may have to be regarded as on a different footing from the ordinary form of Chattram charity which is

intended to cater to the comforts of the needy travellers.

5. The Santarpane appears to have been at first held in a rented house. There is no information available when and at what price the present building was acquired. It is a three storied building situated in Sambhu Rao's lane in Doodh Vinayaka Mohalla near the Panchaganga Ghat. Though situated near enough to the Ganges and at an easy distance of the principal shrines, the building is in an obscure lane without sufficient accommodation to offer comfortable lodgings to travellers. On this score and owing to the practice of the manager inviting for the Santarpane from the Brahmans resident at Benares to make up the required number daily, complaints of mismanagement appear to have been received time and again. The management cannot be held altogether responsible for this state of things. It is to be remembered that the feeding of Brahmans at so many per day, is considered the first duty of the manager and unless he has previous notice of any party of travellers arriving he has to send out invitations to the local Brahmans to make up the number, and if travellers should turn up later, they have to go disappointed.

6. The Agent Govinda Sastry who had come to Mysore on leave saw me more than once and explained in person the whole situation relating to the Chattram. He struck me as a man of character and some learning, in tolerably comfortable circumstances and the affairs of the Chattram may fairly be considered to be safe in his hands.

7. As directed by the Dewan a plan of the Chattram

building has been obtained and it is submitted herewith. It was prepared by a contractor and gives a fairly good idea of the plan of the building and the accommodation available. The ground floor is said to be not habitable, and the first floor is used for cooking and lantarpane. The second floor is used for storing things and office and the third floor which is only covered in parts is mostly left unoccupied.

8. The Western wall of the Chattram is owned partly by the owner of the adjoining house and as a portion of the latter had fallen down and the owner was prepared to pull down his half of the wall, thus weakening the Chattram building, his right to the same --the portion marked A B in the sketch-- was proposed to be purchased for Rs.90/-. This would enable windows being opened therein to allow better light and ventilation to the Chattram. As a matter of fact, the Agent reported that the condition of the wall and the covered lane adjoining was highly dangerous and that the municipality and the house owners in the neighbourhood were bringing a great deal of pressure to bear upon him to see to the safety of the Chattram building, and as very early orders were required I thought it advisable to act on the representation of the Agent and permitted him to acquire the right to the wall in anticipation of Government sanction. The sale deed which has been called for will be submitted separately.

9. The following items of work appear to be necessary to bring up the building to a state of good repairs.

(1) The section of the wall marked A B which has apx partly fallen down since, has to be rebuilt the

whole height with windows opening into the lane for the benefit of all the floors.

(2) White washing, wood oiling and general touching up.

(3) In the first floor a portion of the terrace is said to be in a bad condition. The wood work has to be replaced and terracing newly done.

(4) In the second floor, one of the walls of the office room is said to be badly cracked and has to be replaced.

(5) In the third floor the tiled roof has to be repaired and some wood work has to be replaced. A portion of the parapet wall has also to be repaired.

10. The Agent has now submitted a revised estimate for Rs.730/- to completely repair the building. Here again the estimate has not been prepared by a qualified Engineer officer but by a professional Mestri. Considering the nature and amount of repairs to be done, the estimate does not appear to be unduly large. There is a balance of Rs.4668-9-8 at the credit of the institution and if if approved, the estimate may be sanctioned and the repairs taken in hand early. The Agent told me in person that considerably more damage is likely to be caused if the repairs are not attended to early. As it is a portion of the wall has had to be taken down as it was considered dangerous.

11. I am unable to indicate with any definiteness the directions in which a local enquiry may be made excepting generally as regards the regular conduct of the Panchayat It is to be feared that the execution of the present re-

pairs

repairs by a qualified professional agency may mean considerably more cost. Similar Chattrams on very much larger scale appear to be maintained by some other States and private individuals and by comparison the Mysore Chattram may not have attracted as much attention locally as in the other cases. Its situation is also responsible for this impression to a great extent. If the Chattram should attract public attention more largely, it will have to be maintained in a more commodious building, centrally situated and affording accommodation at least to the Mysore pilgrims. This will be a question largely of funds, but I have, however, directed the Agent to be on the look out for a likely building. There will be nearly Rs.4000/- at the credit of the Chattram, after incurring the present expenditure and the existing building may fetch about Rs.3000/-. By laying out an additional sum of Rs.10,000/- if need be by saving up one half of the annual allotment for the next 8 or 9 years it may be possible to acquire a decent building in a better situation. This would afford some satisfaction and convenience to the Mysore pilgrims visiting Benares. It will, however, be a matter for consideration whether a stoppage of feeding to this extent may be permitted looking at the nature of the service originally intended.

15/2/26

G. R. S. Vl—G/32]

SUBJECT. Forwards to the Palace Controller for opinion copy of Mavrai Supdt's note on the affairs of His Highness the Maharaja's Chattram at Benares.

Diary No. of letter replied to 207 918.

Section I
File No. 11-18.
Serial No. 2

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT
( )
, *the* 191 .

No. 1395/Encls/

Date of issue 20.11.1918

Signed by Mr. de La Hodge Rao

To

The Palace Controller, Mysore.

Sir,

I am directed to forward herewith a copy of the Mavrai Supdt's Note on the affairs of His Highness the Maharaja's Chattram at Benares and to request that you will be so good as to favour Govt. with your opinion on remarks together with any further information and your suggestion for

orders.

make a copy of
this main
B

16

~~for the improvement of the affairs~~ that matters may be put on a more suitable & accessible type of. I am also to request an expression of your opinion as regards the suggestion made by some members of the R. A that the matter and funds should be utilized for the ~~creation~~ accommodation and convenience of the major pilgrimages visiting the holy city, a reading hand of the present items of expenditure being made

~~regarding the institution.~~
the favour of an early reply is requested.

I have etc.,

For Jt: Secretary to Govt,
Muzrai Dept.
RG
7/10/18

List of enclosures.

Nil

Copied by

Examined by

W.D.8(—GPB 60 000—15 11 16

B

N O T E.

Subject:-- His Highness the Maharaja's Chattram at Benares.

-------:0:-------

The Mysore Maharaja's Chattram at Benares was established by His Highness the late Maharaja Krishnaraja Wadeyar Bahadur, III, in the year 1822 (Chitrabanu) and the management thereof was entrusted to Pandit Sesha Sastry (father of Dharmadikari Rama Sastry). Sesha Sastry himself was resident at Mysore and the local management of the Chattram was handed over to Shankara Sastri, brother of Sesha Sastry. Sankara Sastri looked after the Chattram during his life time and after him his son Subrahmanya Sastry and his grand-son Raja Sastri became the managers in succession, and after the demise of the latter, his son Govinda Sastry who is the present manager succeeded to the management.

2. The original Sanad establishing the Chattram which appears to be [illegible] in the possession of the [illegible] Sastri, is [illegible] a Nirup (Tha Amal) [illegible] Venkatarajia under date 2nd December 1822 shows that the Found[illegible]

18

to pay 900 pagodas from the Treasury to Sesha Sastry for Anna Santarpane in the newly established Chattram at Benares and that the grant is increased by 140 pagodas for performance of pujas at certain temples at the place and for payment of Dakshina to the Brahmans fed at the Chattram.

3. This total Tasdik of 1040 pagodas which in the current coin amounts to Rs.2883-3-3 continues to be the Tasdik of the Chattram up to date. The Nirup gives the details of the expenditure to be incurred and this scale practically continues unaltered as will be seen from the appende statement.

4. From the terms of the Nirup it seem to be inferable that the Chattram in question was established on lines somewhat different from those of the Anna Chattrams maintained for the benefit of the travelling public. The number of persons to be fed daily is not only fixed but also cash presents (Dakshina)are to be paid to the Brahmans fed. The occasion in connection with which the Chattram appears to have been established is also significant. [illegible] the same diary entries, another entry is found dated the day previous to the above-mentioned Nirups issuing an order to the Founder to pay certain moneys to [illegible] Sastry who was to accompany the [illegible]

Asti (incinerated bones) of Mahamathoori Cheluvajammanni and to perform certain ceremonies at Gaya. The Sannad establishing the Chattram if available may be found to explain the object with which Santarpane was instituted. but it is not unlikely that it was intended for the spiritual benefit of the departed probably the step-mother of His Highness. Feeding a specified number of Brahmans with Dakshina at a holy place is a well recognized form of spiritual service to the departed and this form of charity may have to be treated as on a different footing from the ordinary form of Chattram charity which is intended to cater to the comforts of the needy travellers.

5. The Santarpane appears to have been at first held in a rented house. There is no information available when and at what price the present building was acquired. It is a three storied building situated in Sambhu Rao's lane in Doodh Vinayaka Mohalla near the Panchaganga Ghat. Though situated near enough to the Ganges and at an easy distance of the principal shrines, the building is in an obscure lane without sufficient accommodation to offer comfortable lodgings to travellers. On this score and owing to the practice of the manager forcing for the Santarpane from the Travellers resident at Ichalkaranji to make up the requisite number daily, complaints of inconvenience appear to have been received from

The management cannot be held altogether responsible for this state of things. It is to be remembered that the feeding of Brahmans at so many per day is to be considered the first duty of the manager and unless he has previous notice of any party of travellers arriving, he has to send out invitations to the local Brahmans to make up the number, and if travellers should turn up later, they have to go disappointed.

Lea.

Statement shewing the details of expenditure fixed originally and the scale of expenditure now in force at His Highness the Maharaja's Chattram at Benares.

No.	Item.	Original scale. Per mensem. Rs. A. P.	Original scale. Per annum. Rs. A. P.	Present scale. Per mensem. Rs. A. P.	Present scale. Per annum. Rs. A. P.	Remarks.
1.	Feeding. To feed 25 outsiders and 5 Chattram servants daily with the exception of 2 Ekadasis in the month at Rs.5/- per day. - -	140 0 0	1680 0 0.	159 6 8	1913 0 0	
	Dakshina at 3 pies per head		137 8 0			
	Total Feeding. - -		1817 8 0		1913 0 0	
2.	Establishment.					
	(a) Brahmans. Parpattegar.	10 0 0				
	Cook. - -	5 0 0				
	Paricharak. -	4 0 0				
	Waterman. - -	4 0 0				
	Gandhakshate, Yale etc. - -	2 0 0				
	(b) Sudras. Servant. - -	4 0 0				
	" - -	4 0 0				
	Female attendant.	2 0 0				
	Supervision charges. - -	28--6-10				
		28 9 2				
		63 9 2	762 14 0	66 8 9	798 9 0	
3.	Chattram rent. - - - -	10 0 0	120 0 0	---	---	
4.	Remittance charges. - - - -	15 0 0	180 0 0	---	36 0 0	For contingencies.
5.	Hetchukatle charges. For performing Abhisheka, Santarpane etc. on Sivaratri for 1. Kasi Visveswara, 2. Vinayaka, 3. Kala Bhyrava, 4. Annapurna and 5. Bhagiriti.		91 1 3		92 7 9	For Sivaratri.
6.	Savings for repairs. - - -				43 2 6	
			2971 7 3		2083 3 3	

	Rs.	A.	P.
Gumasta. -	7	0	0
Cook. - -	5	1	3
Paricharak. -	4	1	3
Waterman. -	4	1	3
Gandakshate. -	2	0	6
Watchman. -	5	1	3
Kamati. -	5	1	3
Sweeper. -	2	0	6
Agent. -	29	1	6
Gumastha. -	3	0	0
	66	8	9

G. R. S. Vl—G/32]

SUBJECT Informs Messrs. B. Narasinga Rao & Veene Rangaswamy Iyengar M. A. members of Yevingapatam TK that the matter of the proper location & efficient management of His Highness the Maharaja's Chattram at Benares is engaging the attention of Govt.

Diary No. of letter replied to 207 dt 18. Govt.

Section Peer

File No. 29-15

Serial No 3

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT

( )

, the 191 .

No. 1396

Date of issue 28-11-1918

Signed by Mr. M. S. Subba Rao

To

Messrs. B. Narasinga Rao and Veene Rangaswami Iyengar, Bangalore Representative Assembly members, Yevingapatam Taluk.

Sirs

Endorsement.

With reference to ~~their~~ Subject No. 109 of 18-19 brought forward for discussion at the ~~Second~~ ~~Session~~ ~~of the Bangalore~~ Representative Assembly held in April 1918, praying that the His Highness the ~~Maharaja's of Mysore~~ Chattram at

over.

at Benares may be located in a ~~prominent place~~ convenient situation and arrangements made for the efficient management ~~thereof~~, ~~Messrs. B. Narasinga Rao and Veera Rangaswamy Iyengar are informed~~ that the question is engaging the attention of Govt and ~~satisfactory arrangements are expected to be made in due course~~ eligible buildings have been selected for the institution. I am directed to state that the matter will be settled in consultation with the local agent at Benares.

I have etc.,

Sd.

Jt: Secretary to Govt,

Mewzai Dept.

3/1/1916

Copy to Director of Industries

List of enclosures.

Copied by

Examined by

WD86—GPB 60 000—15 11 16